

## SUBUD ZONE 4 REPORT TO WORLD CONGRESS 2014

When this report started taking shape, it looked as if, like so many things in Zone 4, it would have a special character of its own.

It is well-known that in our Zone there is no country where English is the native language, yet we do our business in English. Zone 4 officially includes 25 countries. It expanded from a few countries at its inception to the 17 WSA members and 7 Associate members it now has after the dissolution of the USSR and then the start of Subud in the Balkans. The area has seen horrific conflicts - between Serbia and Bosnia/Croatia on the breakup of Yugoslavia and now between Russia and Ukraine.

There are six countries where groups own Subud Houses in Zone 4: Norway, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Greece and Ukraine. Actually, all our countries mentioned how important it is for them to have a place where they can meet and do latihan regularly.

LITHUANIA 2010



GREECE 2011



AUSTRIA 2012



## WOLFSBURG 2013



As a zone, we always have new ideas that we try to make real. One of them was to have a Zone 4 newsletter, which only had about four issues during this period. We tried after a year or so to get away from the old way of the zonal coordinator feeding information to the countries and instituted the idea to have one country create it each time. We only got one from two countries but that's a good start; we hope it continues.

In this period of four years there was a zone 4 helpers' meeting in Budapest, in October 2012 and it was a great success. The attendance was not from all our countries, but those present got a lot from it. We hope there will be another one soon.

Moldova has held two English language summer courses for children in economic distress. Volunteers contributed and the project has been under the SDIA umbrella. This is an example of how a small and not wealthy country can make a great contribution

Our zone is a very interesting combination of countries. There are the colder and more introvert countries of the North and the warmer and more extravert countries of the South. They complement each other, as we have many times felt through doing valuable testing in zonal meetings about our national character could give to the zone and what it needed to take. It is an area of the world where lots of very important and very diverse cultures have existed for centuries. Most of our countries have a very strong feeling of pride in their origin and their history. It is true that as we know each other better we learn to respect and appreciate each other and the latihan makes us feel close.

### INNOVATIONS

Creation of a Z4 website (by Ismanah and team) which we hope will be used more and more in the future. Each country should have page of its own, I feel, and this would have a part which would be the country newsletter.

Arifah Gebhart has made a wonderful book about Z4, mainly for Puebla, which has each country's national anthem, flag, a traditional recipe and a poem. This is already the basis for a country web page.

The enterprise venue in the 2013 Z4 meeting in Wolfsburg was a new and direction pointing development which is exactly in tune with the feeling of the WSC. Created by the German team and helped by Robiyan promoting it in Z3. We hope that it will help to encourage European unity.

Ismanah's Z4 for Peace initiative in the Wolfsburg meeting was inspired by Latifah's very successful Poems for Peace initiative in USA and was much appreciated by the Deputy Mayor of Wolfsburg.

In this term we had the beginnings of much more horizontal communication and cooperation, greatly helped by Skype and free telephone. It is something close to Robiyan's feeling that he hopes will grow and develop. Based on the example of Austria and Germany talking together about WC proposals, Robiyan proposed a similar Skype CC among the Russian language countries. It didn't happen but is something to be pursued, feels Julija Snezko, our hard working Russian translator for zonal business.

All the individual country reports and more detailed information on Zone 4 can be found here [www.subud.org](http://www.subud.org). We'd like to thank Silvana for her great work to put everything together.

Robiyan Easty  
(with very welcome assistance from Harina)